

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 02283 221130Z

21

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EB-07 AID-05 /077 W
----- 124610

R 221021Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2413

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 2283

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, SF, ZA

SUBJECT: ZAMBIA REBUTS BRITISH PRESS REPORT OF SOUTH AFRICAN LOAN

REF: PRETORIA 4456

1. ZAMBIAN PRESS NOV. 21 REPORTS THAT PERM SEC MINISTRY OF
FONAFF NGONDA (FORMER HICOM TO BRITAIN) HAD CALLED IN UK HICOM
MILES TO PROTEST
FORMALLY ARTICLE WHICH APPEARED IN MACHESTER
GUARDIAN ON NOV. 19. OFFENDING ARTICLE REPORTEDLY ALLEGES THAT
ARRANGEMENTS FOR RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT ARE LINKED TO OFFER BY
SOUTH AFRICA OF A LOAN TO ZAMBIA AND INVOLVE DEAL WORKED OUT
AMONG KAUNDA, NKOMO, VORSTER, AND IAN SMITH. NGONDA REPORTEDLY
TOLD MILES THAT GUARDIAN ALLEGATION IS "UNFOUNDED, MALICIOUS,
THE WILD AND FUTILE IMAGINATION OF THE GUARDIAN REPORTER, AND
A DEBASEMENT OF THE STANDARDS OF BRITISH JOURNALISM." MILES ALSO
WARNED THAT STORIES SUCH AS THIS COULD ONLY PREJUDICE GOOD
RELATIONS BETWEEN ZAMBIA AND UK. END UNCLASSIFIED.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LUSAKA 02283 221130Z

2. COMMENT: NGONDA'S ACTION STRIKES US AS A CASE OF "THE LADY

DOTH PROTEST TOO MUCH." SEVERAL WELL-INFORMED SOURCES HAVE ALLEGED TO US THAT SOUTH AFRICA HAS OFFERED ZAMBIA A LOAN (VARIOUSLY DESCRIBED AS AMOUNTING TO DOLS 50 MILLION AND DOLS 150 MILLION), THAT SEVERAL BANKS ARE INVOLVED IN THE SCHEME, THAT IT COULD BE BLIND COVER FOR ZAMBIAN IMPORTS OF SAUDI ARABIAN OIL; AND THAT THE ZAMBIANS ARE WILLING IF ONLY THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS CAN BE HIDDEN. OFFER REPORTEDLY CONNECTED WITH SOUTH AFRICA'S INTEREST IN GETTING ZAMBIAN RAIL LINK THROUGH RHODESIA REOPENED. TO WHAT EXTENT IAN SMITH AND/OR JOSHUA NKOMO MAY BE PRIVY TO DISCUSSIONS OF THIS LOAN IS UNKNOWN. IT UNKNOWN IF ZAMBIANS HAVE MADE DEFINITE DECISION TO ACCEPT PURPORTED SOUTH AFRICAN OFFER. WE WERE TOLD BY PRIVATE SOURCE IT REJECTED; YET CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER AND STATE HOUSE OFFICIALS SMILE AT MENTION OF SUBJECT BUT REFUSE COMMENT. THEY ARE OBVIOUSLY HIGHLY SENSITIVE TO ANY SUGGESTIONS THAT THEIR STAND IN FAVOR OF CONTINUING SEARCH FOR RHODESIAN POLITICAL SETTLEMENT STEMS FROM CRASS ECONOMIC MOTIVES RATHER THAN FROM POLITICAL IDEALS. UNWELCOME GUARDIAN STORY MUST BE SERIOUSLY EMBARRASSING TO ZAMBIANS WHO ARE ALREADY UNDERGOING STRAINS IN THEIR NORMALLY VERY CLOSE RELATIONS WITH TANZANIA AND MOZAMBIQUE BECAUSE OF DIFFERING APPROACHES TO THE RHODESIAN PROBLEM AS WELL AS OVER ANGOLA.

3. UK HICOM MILES

HAUGHINGLY TURNS OFF COMMENT ON SUBJECT WITH COLLEAGUES ALTHOUGH TOLD US TO WATCH OUT BECAUSE AUTHOR OF GUARDIAN ARTICLE WAS AN AMERICAN (TONY FARAGON) AND US MIGHT BE NEXT TO BE CALLED IN. BRITISH SNIDELY COMMENTED THAT AT LEAST WE NOW KNOW HOW TO DEAL WITH OFFENDING NEWSPAPER ARTICLES. WILKOWSKI

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, FOREIGN RELATIONS, LOANS, ALLEGATIONS, RAILROADS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LUSAKA02283
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750407-0899
From: LUSAKA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751119/aaaaaqfu.tel
Line Count: 91
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 PRETORIA 4456
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <18 NOV 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ZAMBIA REBUTS BRITISH PRESS REPORT OF SOUTH AFRICAN LOAN
TAGS: PFOR, EAID, SF, ZA, UK, RH
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006